135 maunds of babul seed were scattered in closures to fill up blanks in the Naushahro Division.

The conditions being so favourable in the Hyderabad Division that most of the felled compartments reproduce themselves naturally without any artificial aid. It was therefore necessary to broadcast about 94 maunds of babul seed in these forests only.

Hundreds of seedlings, sufficient to form a dense forest, resulted from the sowing of 295 maunds of babul seed in the forests of the Jerruck Division, and the conditions of the growth in the compartments similarly treated since 1892 is most satisfactory.

(3) Early thinnings.

Thinnings.

75. No thinning out was done during the year.

(4) Other Operations for the improvement of the growing Stock.

Improvement of the growing stock.

76. In past years, attention has not been paid to free the growing stock by cutting out destructive climbers, and it is contemplated to arrange to carry on this most important work on an extensive scale through the agency of the Protective Staff and of people who depend on the forests for their livelihood.

(5) Experiments.

Experiments.

77. An attempt was made to introduce new species in the Naushahro Division, but the soil and situation chosen for sowing the seed were so unfavourable that I am not surprised the experiment proved a complete failure.

78. Experimental sowings of the rain tree (*Iuga Sama*) were also made in the Jerruck Division with seed obtained from Dr. King, of the Calcutta Botanical Gardens, with a fair show of success. Mr. Ryan states in his report that "this tree possesses the property of extracting salt from the soil, and excellent results in this respect have been obtained by Mr. Maries by planting it in Bengal. In one locality which was planted with *Iugu Suma*, the site of an old saltpetre factory on which not even a weed would grow, in less than five years not a vestige of salt remained in the ground. There are extensive tracts of 'kalar' land in Sind which are now unproductive and which by planting with the *Iugu Sama* might be reclaimed."

(d) Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

Exploitation of timber.

79. Timber was exploited on the selection method, and firewood fellings were conducted as heretofore by restricting them to specified compartments to be worked during the year. A statement showing the area set apart for supplying the demands of the North-Western Railway and other large consumers in firewood is given below :—

Division.	Area of compartments.
	Acres.
Sukkur	12,478
Naushahro	3,750
Hyderabad	2,480
Jerruck	500